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News Release

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MANAGERS OF APARTMENTS IN MIDDLETOWN RECEIVE USDA AWARD

Middletown (04-04; 11-17-2003): Each year USDA Rural Development invites nominations to recognize managers of Indiana apartment projects financed through USDA for their professionalism. USDA Rural Development announced recently that Jim and June Stierwalt have been recognized as the "Family Apartment Managers of the Year" in Indiana for 2003. The Stierwalts have been the onsite managers of Rose Park and Towne Park Apartments located in Middletown since 1999.

The Stierwalts were presented a Special Achievement Award by Robert White, USDA Rural Development Indiana State Director, during a gathering at the apartment complex. The Stierwalts were cited for their excellent maintenance practices, the personal care they consistently give the residents and for their teamwork which makes these apartment complexes wonderful places to live.

Middletown's Rose Park Apartments has 22 units and Towne Park has 24. These apartments are designed to meet the affordable housing needs of families and are an asset to this Henry County community. The apartments are owned by Ralph Loveless and the management agent is Kenneth Cox of Properties Unlimited.

Many residents wrote letters to USDA in support of the Stierwalt's nomination for this award. A typical letter expressing appreciation of them said, "Jim and June always give

200% and always go that extra mile for us here. So where do you find any nicer or more caring people than the Stierwalts? You don't!". Another resident commented, "Jim and June are such loving, caring people and will help you out any way that they can. They work hard to keep the apartments clean and livable."

White said, "In Indiana there are over 600 rural rental housing developments with nearly 14,000 apartment units financed by USDA. The residents of Rose Park and Towne Park Apartments are fortunate to have Jim and June Stierwalt as their management team. It is obvious that they are held in very high regard by the owner, property managers and the residents."

Single family home loans, rural rental housing, water and waste water facility funding, business and industry loans, and community facility loans and grants are financial resources available from USDA Rural Development. Questions concerning these services in this area can be directed to USDA Rural Development, 975 E. Washington Street, Suite 3, Winchester, IN 47394; phone 765-584-4505, extension 4.